

State of South Dakota

SEVENTY-FIFTH SESSION LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2000

453D0554

SENATE BILL NO. 102

Introduced by: Senators Lawler and Drake and Representatives Waltman and Diedtrich (Elmer)

1 FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to authorize certain minor school calendar adjustments.

2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

3 Section 1. That § 13-26-2 be amended to read as follows:

4 13-26-2. The school board or governing body shall operate grades one through twelve in its
5 schools for at least a nine-month regular term in any one school year. The regular school term
6 may be conducted on a year-round basis, but, for grades one through twelve, shall consist of
7 school actually in session for at least one hundred seventy-five days and shall begin on a date
8 established by the school board. The State Board of Education shall promulgate rules pursuant
9 to chapter 1-26 governing the operation and scheduling of year-round schools. The rules may
10 allow deviations from the one hundred seventy-five day requirement in this section and from the
11 five and one-half hour per day requirement in § 13-26-1 if the total school term hours
12 requirement in § 13-26-2.1 is met. Minor calendar revisions for early dismissal times for staff
13 development, scheduling conflicts for school activities, parent-teacher conferences, holidays,
14 inclement weather, and acts of God are permissible, if the annual time requirement of nine
15 hundred sixty-two and one-half hours, exclusive of intermissions, is met. The local school board
16 or governing body may establish the school term for kindergarten programs. Any school board
17 or governing body may release graduating high school seniors from school before the end of the

1 regular term if the release is for no more than three days. Make up days for school closing
2 because of weather, disease or emergency need not exceed ten days. Graduating seniors are
3 excused from make up days if the make up days occur after the students have graduated or after
4 graduation exercises have been held. If classes have been convened and then are dismissed
5 because of inclement weather, that day constitutes a day in session.

6 School boards are encouraged to provide days within the regular school term for curriculum
7 and staff development which shall be in addition to the one hundred seventy-five days required
8 in this section. Each school board shall determine the appropriate number of days for this activity
9 and how best to use the time based on local needs for program development, increased parent
10 participation, student contact, teachers' preparation, or other needs of the schools in the district.
11 School shall be in session only when classes are held and as provided in §§ 13-26-4 and
12 13-26-4.1. A school board may operate a special term during the summer months.